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Top Red Officials In Pay of the CIA, Senator Discloses

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Sen. Milton R. Young (R., N.D.) one of the few men in Washington privy to the Central Intelligence Agency's innermost secrets, said Wednesday that many of the best spies the U.S. has abroad are top Communist Party officials.

Young is one of only six senators who know precisely how much money is appropriated for the super-secret CIA and for what purpose. The funds are concealed in the budgets of dozens of other federal agencies for security purposes.

Last winter, the North Dakota Republican toured virtually all of the CIA's overseas offices as a member of the Senate appropriations subcommittee.

"Many of our most valuable CIA operatives in various countries throughout the world are actually high-ranking Communist Party officials," he wrote in a report to his constituents.

Asked to elaborate, Young said that American spies cannot work their way up in the apparatus of foreign Communist Parties.

"Some party members — not too sold on communism for a price will work for us," he said.

"These operatives are experts in their line of work and they find little difficulty adapting themselves to any kind of political environment."

Young declined, for obvious reasons, to cite any current examples. But he did tell of a Romanian agent, high up in his country's secret service, who also worked for the CIA.

"He had so many girl friends, he was one of our most expensive operatives," the senator said, adding that the agent in question was caught and shot about a year ago.

On the other side of the fence, Young said, every Communist to some degree is an espionage agent. He said that in the U.S. they usually hide out in extreme left-wing groups. But they can conceal themselves effectively in almost any level of society, including far-right organizations.

"They are fewer in number now in the U.S. than at any time in the past 20 years, and most of them are known to the FBI," he said.

"The agents and operatives of the Russian KGB (similar to the CIA in scope) and their GRU (military espionage) are much more difficult to cope with.

"One of their major missions is to seek out top-secret military and scientific information," Young said. "The FBI . . . has been able to apprehend most of these agents, but undoubtedly some are still operating, and at very high levels."

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